(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard and by when it will be installed?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Proposals for installation of TV transmitters (HPTs/LPTs/VLPTs) in various parts of the country have been received from time to time, from various quarters. The areas uncovered by terrestrial transmission, along with rest of the country, have been provided with multi channel TV coverage through free to air DTH service of Doordarshan, which was launched in December 2004. It is possible to receive DTH signals anywhere in the country (except A&N Islands) with the help of small sized dish receive units. New transmitters for expansion of terrestrial coverage are now not envisaged to be set up.

(c) and (d) A few requests for installation of a TV transmitter in Ransar Valley have been received. However a representation forwarded by the Prime Minsiter's Office has not been received. In view of multi channel TV coverage having been provided in the entire country, new terrestrial transmitters are now not envisaged to be set up.

Rules for private FM Radio

†360. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made the rules for operating private FM Radio flexible; and

(b) whether permission for broadcasting news has been given to private FM Radio also?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Government of India took a policy in the year 1999 to expand FM Radio Network through private agencies (Phase-I). Keeping in view the large-scale default during the Phase-I and after taking into consideration the recommendations of TRAI and other relevant factors, a new policy of expansion of FM Radio broadcasting service through private agencies (Phase-II) was notified on 13.7.2005. The new policy provides a number of new measures to facilitate growth of FM Radio Industry like introduction of 20% FDI in FM industry, allowing networking in C & D category cities within the same region, shifting from fixed license fee mode! to revenue sharing model etc. Further, permission was granted on the basis of one time entry fee quoted by the bidders through sealed tender system.

(b) No, Sir.

Revision of AD policy

361. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre revised the Ad Policy and issued new rules;

(b) if so, to what exent new rules support the regional dailies published in regional languages; and

(c) the number of publications under the category of small newspapers'?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The New DAVP Advertisment Policy, effective from 2nd October, 2007, provides enhanced percentage share in money terms to dailies published in regional languages. The percentage share of advertisements has been increased from 30% to 35%.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.